Pradesh for stopping kar seva in Ayodhya on the 30th October last;

(b) whether these forces had pellet guns also;

(c) if not, the reasons for which several kar sevaks were hospitalised with pellet wounds; and

(d) whether some outsiders had donned the uniforms of para-military forces|PAC etc. and mingled with them and fired at the kar sevaks; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Maintenance of "Public Order" is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government do not generally have such details. However, 198 Companies of para-military forces were placed at the disposal of Govt. of UP.

Bodies of Ram Bhaktas found from Saryu River

540. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bodies of Ram Bhaktas from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, etc. have been found from Saryu river in Ayodhya after the 30th October, and 2nd November, 1990 with pellet bullet wounds and their hands and waist tide to bags and earthen jars filled with sand so that the dead bodies of Ram Bhaktas may not float and evidence of killings may be erased;

(b) if so, the names of such persons, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government would fix the responsibility of shooting them and later drowning the bodies in this manner in Saryu river and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government and the same would be laid on the Table of the House.

Telecasting the views of religious personalities on Ram Janambhoomi issue

541. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of times Shahi Imam of Delhi was shown on TV and his views telecast in the context of the Ram Janambhoomi Temple issue datewise; and

(b) the names of Shankracharyas and other Hindu religious saints who were similarly shown on TV and views of the other side on the Ram Janambhoomi issue telecast recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Shahi Imam of Delhi was covered by Doordarshan in its news bulletins six times, including three times in visual on 14-10-90, 23-10-90, 24-10-90, 3-11-90, 6-11-90 and 16-11-90.

(b) The names of Shankracharyas and other Hindu religious saints are as under:

Shankracharya of Jyoti Math Jagatguru and

Shankracharya Niranjan Dev Tirath of Puri

Mahant Lal Das

Mahant Sewa Das

Swami Harinarayanand

Swami Prasananji

Swami Vishwesh Teerathji

Dr. Ramvilas Devji Vidanti, Member, Shri Ram Janambhoomi Trust

Shri Maheshwar Devji of Hardwar

Mahant Gangadasji Nasik

Mahamandaleshwar Santoshi Maharaj of Kashi

Mahant Avaidhya Nath

Swami Chinmayanand

Swami Satyamitranand

Ram Bhaktas shot at Ayodhya

542. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the command of certain officers of para-military forces, shooting on unarmed Ram Bhaktas took place on the 30th October, and 2nd November, last in Ayodhya at chest and head;

(b) whether such shooting is contrary to the instructions;

(c) whether some of these officers were later decorated with honour; and

(d) if so, what are their names, ranks and dates of their posting in Ayodhya; alongwith the date of decoration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Problem of Unemployment

543. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a programme for solving the problem of unemployment; and

(b) if so, the estimated layout thereof and the rate of growth of employment per annum contemplated thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) The Eighth Plan Approach Document propose employment as the central thrust of the Plan. Sub-stantial shifts in the pattern of investment in favour of sectors and activities using less capital and more labour per unit of output have been suggested for the purpose. The proposed strategy emphasises creation of employment opportunities on an increasingly larger scale in the normal process of development. At the same time, it recognises the need for special programmes designed to offer guaranteed work to the needy as an interim measure.

(b) The target will be to achieve on the average a 3 per cent annual rate of increase in employment over the next decade. The details would be incorporated in the Eighth Plan Document.

Bofors Gun deal case

544. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would pursue the Bofors gun deal case in the interest of the country after gettting the relevent papers from the Swiss authorities now: and

(b) if so, in what direction and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The case is under investigation. It will not be in the interest of the investigation to disclose details or the direction of the investigation, at this stage.